

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00449 211226Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PM-05

DODE-00 SS-15 PA-02 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /043 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 611

INFO USDAO KINSHASA

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 449

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, GB

SUBJ: PRESIDENT BONGO REQUESTS SATELLITE ASSISTANCE TO

LOCATE DOWNED HELICOPTER

PRESIDENT BONGO SENT MINISTER JEAN NGUEMA TO SEE ME 1230 LOCAL THIS MORNING TO REQUEST OUR URGENT ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING A DOWNED HELICOPTER IN CENTRAL GABON WHICH INCLUDES AMONG THE PASSENGERS MRS BONGO'S YOUNGER BROTHER LT. COL. DJOUE DABANY, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE GABONESE ARMED FORCES. HELICOPTER LAST HEARD FROM MID DAY FEB. 20 APPROXIMATELY 40 NAUTICAL MILES FROM CITY OF NDJOLE WHEN IT ANNOUNCE IT WAS MAKING A FORCED LANDING IN DENSE RAIN FOREST. GABONESE AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL LOCATING ANY TRACE HELICOPTER DURING PAST 24 HOURS. MINISTER NGUEMA INQUIRED ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT WHETHER ANY US PHOTOGRAPHIC SATELLITES IN ORBIT OVER GABON AND IF SO, WHETHER THERE ANY POSSIBILITY THEY COULD BE ENGAGED DURING THEIR PASSES TO TAKE PHOTOS. HELICOPTER WAS ENROUTE FROM LIBREVILLE TO FRANCEVILLE AND WOULD HAVE BEEN AT APPROXIMATELY ZERO DEGREES LATITUDE, ELEVEN DEGREES THIRTY MINUTES EAST LONGITUDE WHEN LAST HEARD FROM. YATES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, SATELLITES, HELICOPTERS
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Draft Date: 21 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: PRESIDENT BONGO REQUESTS SATELLITE ASSISTANCE TO LOCATE DOWNED HELICOPTER PRESIDENT BONGO SENT MINISTER JEAN NGUEMA TO SEE M
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